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COUNTRY East Germany Approved For Release 2002/07/15 : CIA-RDP80-00810A001300470003-3

REPORT NO.

TOPIC Finow Airfield

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DATE OF CONTENT 10 March to 1 April 1953

DATE PREPARED 27 April 1953

REFERENCES 25X1A

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

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1. Air activity observed at Finow airfield from 10 March through 1 April 1953 included:

10 March. From 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., there was flying at the field in fair weather. Once 11 MiG-15s were seen flying in squadron wedge formation of flight wedges. Source repeatedly saw formations of four planes in wedge formation and also high altitude flights by individual MiG-15s.

11 March. From 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., individual and formation flying was conducted at altitudes of up to 5,000 meters. Wedge formations of four planes and formations of two planes were seen. The weather was fair. A type-29 plane was definitely identified.

16 March. At 8:20 a.m., four Yake-11s flew circles over the field. Formation flying was practiced in the afternoon. Formations of 11 and 10 MiG-15s were observed. Formations of 5, 3 and 2 planes were repeatedly seen. Some MiG-15s or type-29 planes made high altitude flights. One plane was seen towing an air sleeve.

17 March. From 8 a.m. to 2 p.m., individual and formation flying and firing at an air sleeve towed by a MiG-15 were observed. The weather was fair.

18 and 19 March. Air activity was much lighter than on the preceding days although the weather was fair.

23 March. Between 5 and 6 p.m., source observed that the alert flight at the field consisted of four MiG-15s

Two other MiG-15s were seen immediately west of the alert flight, while 35 MiG-15s and type-29 planes were parked at the northern edge of the installation. Another estimated 10 MiG-15s or type-29 planes were available at the field.

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30 March. From 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., Yak-11s made local training flights and MiG-15s were involved in individual and formation flying.

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The weather was fair.

31 March. There was only light local training activity. The weather was 5/10 overcast, visibility good.

1 April. There was flying at the field. From 5:45 to 6:45 p.m., 40 MiG-15s or type-29 planes in addition to three Yak-11s were counted at the field. Another estimated 12 MiG-15s were parked at the installation.

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2. On 1 April, 6 x 37-mm guns were observed at the AA gun emplacement at the southeastern portion of the field.

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1. Comment. A fighter division headquarters and two fighter regiments are stationed at Finow airfield. As had been observed at other airfields in East Germany occupied by fighter units training in formation flying has been stressed during the reported period.

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